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SOURCE: Estonian newspapers "Vaba Eestlane" and "Meie Elu" in Toronto, anonymous "ETA" bulletins.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS:

At the end of September, 1964, an eleven member Soviet cultural delegation visited Canada. One of the members was a Soviet Estonian literary figure, Rudolf Sirge. Sirge contacted Salme Ekbaum (connected with the Estonian bank in Toronto) on a pretext of having a package from her sister Minni Nurme in Estonia and expressed a desire to meet with the literary people in Toronto. On 21 September a meeting was held at the home of Karl Ferne (a small time writer and a member of the Estonian National Council in Canada). Others present were Johannes Oja, Magda Pihla, Arvo Naelapaa (affiliated with the periodical "Vaba Eesti" and the Young Socialist-Liberal Movement) and possibly a few more persons.

About ten days or two weeks later approximately 3,000 copies of an anonymous bulletin concerning the meeting were mailed to Estonians in Canada (some even in the U. S.). The bulletin was dated 28 September, 1964 under the title of "ETA Announces".

COMMENT: ETA is the abbreviation for the official Estonian News Agency which existed during the Republic.

This bulletin had the following effects: The Estonian National Council came under considerable fire because its member, Ferne, had "secretly" met and "co-existed" with the Soviet functionary. Arvo Naelapaa was banned from the activities of the student fraternity, Kotalia, for two years. Some accounts were withdrawn from the Estonian bank in Toronto. In the few days following this Karl Ferne resigned from the Estonian National Council. Also the entire council of the World-Wide Estonian Literary Association, Canadian branch, resigned because of the organization's involvement in the R. Sirge affair.

Following this turmoil the Estonian National Council, under the leadership of H. Parkma, held a meeting on 8 October, 1964, where it was voted on to condemn all irresponsible persons who are trying to undermine the Estonian society with anonymous letters and rumors.

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About a week later, Eerik Heine resigned his vice-presidency of the Estonian National Council, protesting the Council's condemnation and decision of 8 October, 1964.

The second ETA bulletin was dated 16 October, 1964, which once again attacked those present at the meeting with Sirge, but in addition, attacked Dr. Ivar Grunthal. The bulletin also denounced Heino Joe, who periodically writes a by-line for the newspaper, "Vaba Eestlane" under the pen name of "Black Joe". Joe's witty story on the Sirge affair had connected the ETA authors with the Soviet Intelligence Service. An attack was also directed against the Parkma faction of the Estonian National Council, condemning the following people for the co-existence with communism: Joe, Kareda, Pahapill, Heine, Pats, Trass, Kova and Parkma. According to the bulletin, the following people are against communism: Salurand, Veidebaum, Jurima, Urm, Kala, Lupp, Heine, Eiisna and Tralla. The bulletin also denounced the Estonian newspapers in Canada.

COMMENT: One of the most vociferous persons in the Council has been Ulo Jurima, a close friend and associate of Heine. Jurima works for the newspaper "Meie Elu" and has access to the addresses of all the subscribers.

On 17 October, 1964, a memorial plaque for the war dead was ceremoniously opened. During the ceremonies, Consul J. E. Markus, in his speech, denounced the mistake of a few persons in meeting with Soviet functionaries, but in more severe terms, condemned the activities of an anonymous "whisper campaign".

Later in the evening the Canadian equivalent of LEL held its annual meeting where, among other things, a resolution was adopted which denounced all rumors which might tend to put the label of "communist agent" on persons who are active in Estonian affairs. The source of such rumors is to be discovered by the organization's officers.

COMMENT: This organization is led by the former flak lieutenant H. Kore, who is another apparent affiliate of E. Heine.

On 31 October, 1964, the Estonian National Council held its annual meeting with elections. The matter of the anonymous ETA bulletins was discussed in considerable length. It was found that the Estonian bank in Toronto is subject to the controls and

regulations of the Canadian government and anonymous attacks against this institution could be considered as a criminal offense. When it came to the election of the officers the faction which had supported the views expressed in the ETA bulletins lost out. Ulo Jurimau failed to gain membership in the executive council. H. Parkma's proposal to form a three member commission for the investigation of the ETA activities was adopted. This commission is led by H. Parkma. The Estonian National Council has held a number of meetings and adopted resolutions which ask for information to be forwarded to the Council by all Estonians concerning the activities of the ETA group.

Since then ETA bulletins No. 3 and 4 have appeared which are not yet available. Bulletin No. 3 reportedly attacks Consul Markus. It is rumored that the bulletins will be replaced by a new newspaper which will then openly pursue these issues.

COMMENT: The Karsna-Keerd faction in New York has been very active recently in forming a collegium for a newspaper to be published in the U. S. A.

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